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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

COUNTRY Greece

DATE DISTR. 30 November 1948

SUBJECT Markezinis Plans to Install Papagos as
Prime Minister

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. Spyros Markezinis, who is presently supporting the coalition government, actually holds the balance of power and plans to use this to cause a government crisis next February and to support General Alexander Papagos as Prime Minister. He has the support of Police Chief Angelos Evert and the newspaper Estia, and probably that of Queen Frederika.
2. Prime Minister Themistocles Sofoulis and Constantine Rendis are attempting to anticipate this maneuver by trying to make Papagos Commander-in-Chief of the Greek National Army in the belief that a short period in this position would discredit him sufficiently to eliminate him as a political threat in the future. If this maneuver is not successful, they plan to ask Stylianos Gonatas to participate in the government, probably as Minister of War.

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